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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/771,569 | 01/30/2001 | James P. Clarkin | P 00277116 | 1204 |

909 7590 02/10/2003

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| EXAMINER |
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TRAN, MY CHAU T

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| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
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1639

DATE MAILED: 02/10/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



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| APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. |
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| ART UNIT | PAPER |
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Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Application No.: 09/771,569.

Art Unit: 1639.

NOTE: The Group and/or Art Unit location of your application in the PTO has changed. To aid in correlating any papers for this application, all further correspondence regarding this application should be directed to Group Art Unit 1639.

1. The reply filed on 11/20/02 (Paper No. 7) is not fully responsive to the prior Office Action because of the following omission(s) or matter(s):

Applicant have elected Group I (Claims 1, 4-5, and 8-27) with traverse, and elected "0.0001 mm² to 1 mm²" as the channel cross sectional area (Species A), "1mm to 1km" as the channel length (Species B), "glass" as the substrate (Species C), "polyimide" as the exterior coating (Species D), and "hydrophobic bonded phases" as the interior coating (Species E). Because applicant have amended Claims 3, which is Group III (Claims 3-4, 8-13, and 28-36), to depend on Claim 1, Group III is now rejoined with Group I. However, the election does not include any species selection of Group III especially the endcap substrate (Species H). The requirement for Species H is reiterated below:

If applicants elect the invention of Group III, applicants are required to further elect from the following patentably distinct Species H of the claimed invention:

| Species H | Claim No. | The endcap substrate comprises: |
|-----------|-----------|---------------------------------|
| (1) | 31 | glass |
| (2) | 31 | ceramic |
| (3) | 31 | thermoplastic polymers |
| (4) | 32 | fused silica |
| (5) | 32 | fused quartz |
| (6) | 32 | PMMA |

Applicant amended Claim 3 would result in rejoining Group III with Group I, which would also require the election of species for Group III. Since there is no election of species for Group III was made. Therefore, the response is incomplete.

2. See 37 CFR 1.111. Since the above-mentioned reply appears to be bona fide, applicant is given ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS from the mailing date of this notice, whichever is longer, within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).


3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to My-Chau T. Tran whose telephone number is 703-305-6999. The examiner is on Increased Flex Schedule and can normally be reached on Monday: 8:00-2:30; Tuesday-Thursday: 7:30-5:00; Friday: 8:00-3:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew J. Wang can be reached on 703-306-3217. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9306 for regular communications and 703-872-9307 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-1123.

mct

February 5, 2003


PADMASHRI PONNALURI
PRIMARY EXAMINER